

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The 2005 Reorganizational Meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors was called to order by County Clerk Fred Mytty at 9:00 A.M., January 19, 2005, in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska, with the following members present: Lux, Carlstrom, George, Strand, Missel, Marsh and Thietje. Absent: None.

The Board unanimously declared the meeting legally convened.

Dean Lux was nominated as Chairman for 2005. The Board, with Lux abstaining, declared that the nominations cease and that Mr. Lux be elected Chairman by unanimous consent.

Chairman Lux then presided over the meeting.

John Carlstrom was nominated for Vice-Chairman for 2005. The Board unanimously, with Carlstrom abstaining, declared the nominations ceased and that John Carlstrom be elected Vice-Chairman by unanimous consent.

The Board unanimously appointed the County Clerk as the secretary, "keeper of the agenda" for the Board.

The Board unanimously approved the agenda as printed; received and placed on file various county officials' reports, three safekeeping receipts from Fremont National Bank covering \$1,000,000, \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 of county funds, bond for Layne H. Meyer, Treasurer of Hooper Township, notice of hearing of Douglas County Planning Commission, correspondence from Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality regarding modified state operating permit of Danny Kluthe and construction approval of Kroenke Farms, Inc., utility installation agreement of OPPD to install a line through county right-of-way, certificates of insurance of Goree Backhoe & Excavating Inc. of Fremont NE, Great Plains Communications, Inc. of Blair NE, and of Dolezal Sand & Gravel of North Bend NE and the annual report of Dodge County Highway Department for 2004; and added two emergency items to the agenda, the appointment of two new members to the board of trustees of the hospital and the approval of a new recorder for the dispatch in the Sheriff's office.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting as corrected. (Under committee reports, the Midwest Index should be 3.3%, not 3.7%.)

The Board unanimously, with Missel abstaining, approved the wage and hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$146,407.42.

The Board unanimously, with Lux abstaining, approved sand and gravel claims in the amount of \$3,268.52.

The Board unanimously approved the remaining financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$86,197.38.

June Vogel from the Child Support Enforcement office was present with a request to place a bench outside their office on third floor. She said some information received from their clients is confidential and seating outside their office was needed to eliminate the possibility of information being overheard by other clients. The Board unanimously approved their request, with the exceptions that the bench be located

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along the east wall prior to entering the Board of Supervisors room. This location is an area where there is not much traffic and can be used by more offices. If the Fire Marshal does not allow the bench in the hallway, it must be removed.

Committee Report – Supervisor Strand suggested a card be sent to Lieutenant Governor Dave Heinemann congratulating him on his inauguration as Nebraska's Governor.

Committee Report – Supervisor Carlstrom, Chairman of the Property Committee, said a new computer for the Building & Grounds Department was purchased for approximately \$1,200. The computer is used to regulate the heating and lighting in the courthouse and judicial center. He also commented a backflow valve needs to be installed as requested by the Fremont City Department of Utilities.

The Board unanimously declared that an emergency exists for the purchase of a new recorder for the E911 dispatching services in the Sheriffs office.

The Board unanimously received three informal bids for a new recorder for the Sheriffs office, one from Tri-State Electronic Services, Inc. in the amount of \$12,000, and the other two from Carmichael Business Systems, Inc. in the amounts of \$22,800 and \$9,820 and awarded the bid to Tri-State Electronic Service, Inc. of Sioux City, Iowa in the amount of \$12,000 for a NICE Call Focus recorder. The new recorder will be purchased using \$10,000 of S.T.O.P. grant funds with the remaining \$2,000 being taken from the Building Fund.

The Board unanimously declared an emergency exists for the appointment of two new members to the board of trustees of the hospital. Supervisor Thietje remarked the appointments needed to be made now, because a retreat the new trustees would be attending was being held prior to the next meeting.

The Board unanimously passed a motion appointing CPA Steve Pribnow and Dr. F. Thomas Waring as the two new trustees of the Fremont Area Medical Center Board, effective immediately, with Mr. Pribnow's term being a six-year term expiring March 31, 2011 and Dr. Waring's term being a four-year term, expiring on March 31, 2009.

A public hearing was held to consider the granting of a 15-year renewal of the current nonexclusive franchise agreement between Dodge County and Time Warner Cable to construct and operate a cable television system in Dodge County. Chairman Lux began the hearing by asking for testimony from the public. City Councilperson Bob Warner expressed his frustrations with a three part series of a program on the Fox channel. He explained that when the channel was experiencing signal difficulties in their broadcasting a series was skipped. He said this is like reading a book with one-third of the pages missing. The complaint will be referred to Fox. Wayne Wit of Fremont said he is upset with the technical service he receives and would like to see the cable service bid out to other companies for better service. Ann Shrewsbury, Manager of Public Affairs for the Nebraska Division of Time Warner, was present and informed Mr. Wit the local technical support office in Fremont was no longer open on Sundays, because of the few calls received, but there is a 24-hour service number available. She said 90% of the calls are answered within three minutes or less. Supervisor Strand said he received two phone calls, one complaining about the rates being increased twice in one year, and the other being a programming complaint, that of viewing the same program the same time two nights in a row. Ms. Shrewsbury shared with Board members improvements made in the past to their services, such as fiber optic cable upgrade for digital services, high definition television with more

channels available including Latina channels and the offering to customers of the use of digital video recorders. She said they will be offering residential phone service to the Cities of Fremont and Columbus by this summer, with services now being launched in Lincoln. Attorney Don Schneider was present and said the services of Time Warner are excellent, but would like to see requirements put into their agreement to extend services to other parts of the county. Perry Cole of Time Warner Cable said the fiber optic cable is very expensive and it cost approximately \$25,000 a mile to install. Supervisor Thietje said he would like to see an agreement signed that is less than 15-years. With no further testimony, the Board unanimously passed a motion approving a 15-year extension of the current nonexclusive franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable at a franchise rate of 3% county tax to customers.

At 10:00 A.M., a public hearing was held to receive testimony on the One & Six Year Road Plan for the county. Highway Superintendent Kment pointed out projects scheduled in the one year plan. He said four of the grading projects were carried over from last year, because of the Scribner/Herman Road. With no testimony against the plan, the Board unanimously adopted and authorized the Chairman to sign a resolution approving the One & Six Year Road Plan as presented.

The Board reviewed correspondence from NIRMA, the county's insurance carrier, regarding a vacancy on their board, upcoming safety training workshops and meeting attendance for their annual conference to be held on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> in Kearney.

In one motion, the Board unanimously received three bids opened at 11:00 A.M. on January 6, 2005 for miscellaneous steel prices from the following bidders: Midwest Service & Sales of Schuyler, Nebraska in the amount of \$55,007.37, Husker Steel of Columbus, Nebraska in the amount of \$57,082.53 and Oden Enterprises of Wahoo, Nebraska in the amount of \$59,028.86 and awarded the bid to the low bidder, Midwest Service & Sales in the amount of \$55,007.37.

The Board unanimously received and awarded a bid opened at 11:00 A.M. on January 13, 2005 for a 2005 ½ ton rated 4x4 pickup from Woodhouse Ford of Blair, Nebraska, the only bidder, in the amount of \$13,395 with a trade-in. Representatives from car dealerships in Fremont were present to express their concerns of why they were not aware of the bid letting. Highway Superintendent Kment explained the notice to bidders was published twice in the Fremont Tribune. Supervisor Thietje remarked he was disappointed that bids were not submitted from local dealerships. Supervisor Marsh suggested the dealerships call sometime late in September to see what vehicles have been budgeted for in the upcoming budget year prior to the bidding process.

At 10:50 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Equalization. The Chairman dispensed with roll, all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #3347 thru #3353.

The Board unanimously received forms #457 exemption applications on 2005 continued exemptions of motor vehicles and accepted the recommendation of the County Treasurer and granted the exemptions.

At 10:52 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Equalization and convened as a Board of Corrections. The Chairman dispensed with roll, all members being present.

In one motion, the Board unanimously approved the requests of Corrections Director Campbell for a pay increase to Reserve Officer Laura Liddick to \$9.50 per hour, due to the completion of the Jail Management Course, increase effective December 10, 2004; and a probationary raise to Officer Alan Bacon to \$12.83 per hour (Grade 25C-2), effective January 19, 2005.

At 10:54 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Equalization. The Chairman dispensed with roll, all members being present.

At 10:55 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss pending TERC appeals.

At 11:27 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session. No action was taken by the Board on any of the appeals.

Immediately thereafter, the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization and reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. The Chairman dispensed with roll, all members being present.

At 11:29 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims for the month of December, 2004.

At 11:47 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session. No action was taken by the Board on any of the claims.

At 11:48 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, February 2, 2005 at 9:00 A.M.

Fred Mytty  
Dodge County Clerk